HOUSE RESOLUTION No. _____ Introduced by: Mahan

A RESOLUTION honoring Jim Kline.

Whereas, Jim Kline grows corn, soybeans, and seed wheat on his 7,500 acre Blackford County farm, which began with 100 acres rented from neighbors when he was a freshman in high school;

Whereas, Jim Kline is also one of four members of a joint farming venture in Brazil that raises eucalyptus;

Whereas, Jim was recognized as the "Top Producer" in North America for 2011 by Top Producer magazine;

Whereas, The "Top Producer" in North America award is

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geared toward the top ten percent of American and Canadian farmers in terms of agricultural output and gross farm income;

Whereas, The award recognizes those farmers who have steadily grown their business in an ethical and systematic manner;

Whereas, Described as a forward-thinking businessman, Jim Kline was among the first farmers in the area to adopt no-till farming, has developed an employee handbook for his workers, sends a newsletter to landlords and suppliers, and has adopted a practice known as "twin-row cropping", which uses a different planting pattern to grow more plants per acre with less environmental damage;

Whereas, Jim also was named a Partner in Progress Award winner by Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Skillman, which is the highest award given by the Lieutenant Governor; and

Whereas, The Partner in Progress Award recognizes those who serve with integrity and work within the community to accomplish something great: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives congratulates Jim Kline on his selection as the 2011 "Top Producer" in North America by *Agribusiness Magazine* and for his selection as a Partner in Progress Award winner.

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6 7 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit copies of this resolution to Jim Kline and his family.

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